

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
3 February 2005 (03.02.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2005/010363 A2

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **F04B**
(21) International Application Number:
PCT/US2004/023833
(22) International Filing Date: 23 July 2004 (23.07.2004)
(25) Filing Language: English
(26) Publication Language: English
(30) Priority Data:
60/489,425 23 July 2003 (23.07.2003) US

(81) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available*): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

(71) Applicant (*for all designated States except US*): **HARGRAVES TECHNOLOGY CORPORATION** [US/US];
127 Speedway Drive, Mooresville, NC 28117 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (*for US only*): **HARGRAVES, Donald, Edwin** [US/US]; 14100 Wynfield Creek Parkway, Huntersville, NC 28078 (US). **CURTIS, Douglas, Allan** [US/US]; 143 Denlon Lane, Troutman, NC 28166 (US).

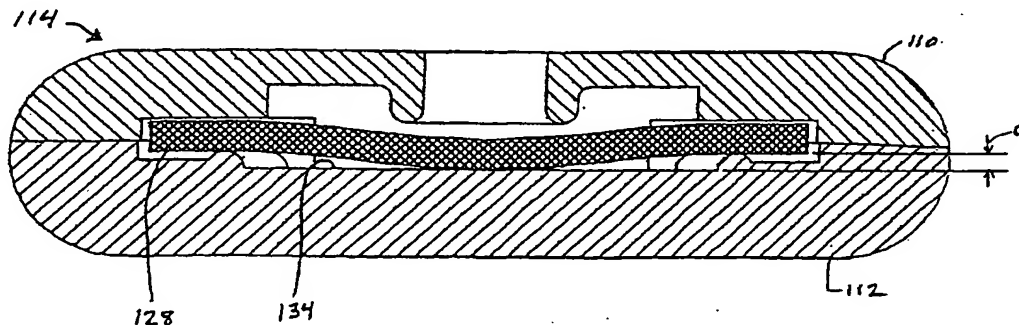
(74) Agents: **ADAMS, Thad, W., III et al.**; Adams Evans P.A., 2180 Two Wachovia Center, Charlotte, NC 28282 (US).

Published:

— *without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report*

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: PUMP VALVE WITH CONTROLLED STROKE



(57) Abstract: A valve assembly for a pump includes a pump chamber and a pump head having complementary recesses formed therein which cooperate to define a valve compartment including a pocket and an opposed seat. A flexible valve element is disposed between the recesses and adapted to move between a closed position against the seat which prevents fluid flow and an open position away from the valve seat which permits fluid flow. The dimensions of the valve compartment are selected to limit the movement of the valve element in the open position, which increases the pump efficiency and prevents damage to the valve element and/or valve overlap.

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